

Amendment No. 6 to HB1532

**Gresham
Signature of Sponsor**

FILED

Date _____

Time _____

Clerk _____

Comm. Amdt. _____

AMEND Senate Bill No. 1315*

House Bill No. 1532

by adding the following new section immediately preceding the last section and by renumbering the subsequent section accordingly:

SECTION _____. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, is amended by adding the following new section:

§ 49-4-9__.

(a) Effective fall semester 2005, any student accepting a Tennessee HOPE scholarship, General Assembly Merit scholarship, or Wilder-Naifeh technical skills grant shall agree in writing to pursue diligently the educational opportunity provided through such financial assistance and to obtain the degree, diploma, or certificate for which the financial assistance is provided. Such agreement shall be evidenced by a contract which shall be valid and fully enforceable in a court of law or equity.

(b) All such financial assistance received shall be repayable in full, without interest, if:

(1) Such student, after having attended an eligible postsecondary institution with financial assistance, withdraws from the institution and subsequently does not enroll in and attend an eligible postsecondary institution or a postsecondary institution located outside of Tennessee that is accredited by a regional accrediting agency during the next academic year; or

(2) Such student fails to obtain the degree, diploma, or certificate for which such financial assistance is provided within five (5) years of the initial receipt of such assistance.

Such repayment, however, shall not be required during any period in which such student is enrolled in an eligible postsecondary institution or a postsecondary institution located outside of Tennessee that is accredited by a regional accrediting agency and maintaining satisfactory academic progress in accordance with the standards and practices used for federal Title IV programs by the institution at which the student is enrolled.

(c) Repayment of financial assistance shall be made on a schedule as provided by rule by TSAC.

(d) No repayment of the need supplemental award under § 49-4-915 or the Tennessee HOPE access grant shall be required by the provisions of this section.

(e) A student may appeal the repayment of financial assistance under this section and TSAC may forgive repayment in whole or in part for personal hardship.

(f) TSAC shall promulgate rules and regulations to provide for repayment of financial assistance under this section, for an appeals process, by which repayment may be forgiven in whole or in part for personal hardship, and the grounds for which such repayment may be forgiven. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act compiled at title 4, chapter 5.